Sanctioned and actual strength of BSF

306. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the sanctioned and actual strength of Border Security Force in the country as on 1st January, 2009;

(b) the reasons where the shortfall exceeds 5 per cent of the sanctioned strength; and

(c) the steps proposed to ensure that the Force does not suffer from shortage of manpower and equipment for the performance of its onerous duties on the borders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The sanctioned strength of Border Security Force as on 01st January, 2009 was 2,10,301 and the actual strength on that date was 2,04,845. The shortfall is 2.59 per cent only.

(c) The vacancies caused by retirement, promotion, resignation, etc. are anticipated well in advance and are systematically filled up by recruitment, promotion, deputation, etc. as provided in the relevant Recruitment Rules. Equipments are being regularly supplied to field units as per authorization.

Revamping Civil Defence in States

307. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the status of the scheme for revamping Civil Defence in the States in view of the looming danger of threats to security; and

(b) the break-up of funds disbursed to States for the purpose during the last three years, year-wise and the projects competed by each State during the period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) The project for Revamping of Civil Defence in the Country is proposed to be implemented in Eleventh Plan period with an allocation of Rs. 100 crore, recommended by the Expenditure Finance Committee. As the final approval is yet to be given, no funds have been released to the States so far.

Sikh militants in jails under TADA Act

308. SARDAR TARLOCHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many Sikh militants are in different jails in India either convicted or being tried under TADA Act;

(b) the figure of each State; and

(c) whether there are any such prisoners who have not been released from jails inspite of their completion of the sentence?